

We Claim:

1. A purified polynucleotide or fragment thereof derived from a PS190 gene, wherein said polynucleotide is capable of selectively hybridizing to the nucleic acid of said PS190 gene and has at least 50% identity to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQUENCE ID NO 1, SEQUENCE ID NO 2, SEQUENCE ID NO 3, SEQUENCE ID NO 4, and fragments or complements thereof.

2. The purified polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide is produced by recombinant techniques.

3. The purified polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide is produced by synthetic techniques.

4. The purified polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide comprises a sequence encoding at least one PS190 epitope.

5. A PS190 polypeptide having at least 50% identity with an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQUENCE ID NO 9, SEQUENCE ID NO 10, SEQUENCE ID NO 11, SEQUENCE ID NO 12, SEQUENCE ID NO 13, SEQUENCE ID NO 14, and fragments thereof.

6. The polypeptide of claim 5, wherein said polypeptide is produced by recombinant techniques.

7. The polypeptide of claim 5, wherein said polypeptide is produced by synthetic techniques.

8. A method for detecting PS190 antigen in a test sample suspected of containing said PS190 antigen, comprising:

(a) contacting the test sample with an antibody or fragment thereof which specifically binds to at least one epitope of a PS190 antigen selected from the group consisting of SEQUENCE ID NO 9, SEQUENCE ID NO 10, SEQUENCE ID NO 11, SEQUENCE ID NO 12, SEQUENCE ID NO 13, SEQUENCE ID NO 14, and fragments

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thereof, wherein said contacting is carried out for a time and under conditions sufficient for the formation of antibody/antigen complexes; and

- 10 (b) detecting the presence of said complexes as an indication of the presence of said PS190 antigen.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said antibody is attached to a solid phase.

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